Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know whether tenders were invited for the construction of bus bodies?

Mr. K. Sankaran: Originally, the work was given on contract, after inviting tenders.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: I am asking about the new type of bodies that were constructed recently.

Mr. K. Sankaran: No tenders were invited because it is found from past experience that construction of bodies by the department itself would be considerably cheaper.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know, what harm there would be if tenders are called for for that purpose? Even then the department is not precluded from constructing bodies if it is found to be cheaper.

Mr. K. Sankaran: There is no harm, but the point that was considered was this. Once Government invited tenders for this purpose and their experience was not encouraging.

State Manual.

28. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the 'State Manual' which is being compiled by *Sadasyatilaka* Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai, has been completed; and

(*b*) if so, when will it be published?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) It will be ready for publication in Chingom 1116.

Ticket clerk in the Transport Department.

29. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the ordinary pay of a ticket clerk in the Transport Department;

(*b*) what are the stations where there are ticket clerks;

(*c*) the number of hours during which a ticket clerk is expected to work;

(*d*) whether any clerk drawing higher pay than that of a ticket clerk is deputed to the work of a ticket clerk; and

(*e*) if so, the reason thereof?

Mr. K. Sankaran: (*a*) Rs. 15 per mensem.

(*b*) Trivandrum, Nagercoil, Quilon, Kottarakara and Kottayam.

(*c*) 8 to 10 hours.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) In view of answer to (*d*), this does not arise.

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